

## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

### ***Ordinary Meeting***

#### ***Ratoath Municipal District***

***10.00a.m, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025, Dunshaughlin Civic Offices***

**Cathaoirleach, Councillor Nick Killian**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Fionnan Blake, Brian Fitzgerald, Gerry O'Connor, Yvonne Everard & Maria Murphy.

**Councillors Present via Zoom:** Caroline O'Reilly

**Absent/Apologies:**

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Services:** Fiona Fallon

**Executive Engineer:** Philip Traynor

**Meetings Administrator:** Francis Regan

**Staff Officer:** Kate Lomza

**Assistant Staff Officer:** Stephen Carey

#### **1.0 Confirmation of Minutes from the Ordinary Meeting of 9th April 2025**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025 were confirmed on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Maria Murphy**.

#### **2.0 Matters arising from minutes**

- Correction to previous minutes. Cllr Murphy asked for existing cut branches to be removed rather than branches to be cut.
- Incorrect name of Councillor listed
- Question 5.2 regarding the 'Batterstown traffic management project' – clarity sought on the exact location of the new ramps and any new ramp should be made clearly visible. Information was also sought on potential alternative funding streams to deliver this scheme including the Council's own resources.

#### **3.0 Expressions of sympathy and congratulations**

**Sympathy was extended to:**

- The family and colleagues of Garda Kevin Flatley

**Congratulations were extended to:**

- To the communication team hosting the Civic Awards and recipients who received them.
- Matthew Costello's performance in the Leinster final.

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### **4.0 Statutory Business**

#### **4.1 Transportation**

##### **4.1.1 To receive a Progress Report on works undertaken/planned for Ratoath Municipal District.**

The report circulated in advance. Further queries raised by members included:

- Junction on the R149 looks great following recent works.
- A temporary road surface measure is needed between the Church and Lidl development to improve safety.
- Houses 11 to 18 in Kilcloon, when will the tarmac be done?
- Manhole on Dunshaughlin high street seems to have sunk an inch. Can this be fixed?
- Hanson Wood chicane traffic calming measure. When will it be finished?
- Can anything be done at the Moynalvey GAA pitch to slow traffic? PT confirmed that these works are to proceed.
- On the Jenkinstown Bridge towards Summerhill a wall is no longer there, exposing a deep drop. Can this be repaired?
- Can Derrockstown Graveyard be open until 9.00pm during the summer months?
- Can the road sweeper go out late May or early June as far as Boylan Bridge to help in the efforts of Tidy Towns?
- Can topsoil and grass seed be applied to the triangle area at the Downes estates as it didn't take?
- Can the excessive dumping at the clothes bank be monitored as it is unsightly?
- Can a letter be written to the Garda regarding the lack of implementation of the tonnage ban?
- Can an invite be extended to the Garda to join the June or July meeting?
- Can bollards or trees be placed at outer relief road to prevent illegal parking or camping?
- Foot paths are needed on the Curragha Road, Dunshaughlin GAA and Dunboyne soccer club.
- Grass in the river at the Kilbrew bridge may look like a path to some. Can this grass be cut back or removed?

Outstanding queries not answered by the Director or MD Engineer will be followed up by the meeting administration team.

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### **4.2 Corporate Affairs & Governance**

- 4.2.1** To note the Municipal District Allocations submitted by Councillors on behalf of Ratoath Municipal District

This was noted

### **5.0 Notice of Questions**

#### **5.1 Submitted by Councillor Caroline O'Reilly**

*“When are plans for both Mullagh Cross and Newtownmoyaghy going to be submitted for planning and when are the projects due to commence now that some funding has been sourced. What are the plans for Mullagh Cross funding and how far will this funding bring this project. What are the projected stages and timelines for both projects?”*

**Response:**

The required environmental, appraisal, design and planning reports for both the R156 Mullagh Cross and the Newtownmoyaghy schemes have been drafted and formal requests have been issued to the Department of Transport (The Approving Authority) to commence the Statutory Planning process for both schemes.

The R156 Mullagh Cross scheme is expected to progress via the Part 8 planning process while the Newtownmoyaghy scheme requires a Natura Impact Statement application to An Bord Planeála.

Applications for funding are made to the Department of Transport on an annual basis as schemes progress with specific approval hold points prior to commencement of the statutory planning process (the current status of both the Mullagh and Newtownmoyaghy schemes), at tender stage and again prior to award of a construction contract.

Progression of these schemes is dependent on Department of Transport approval, statutory planning consent, land acquisition agreements and funding and it is currently hoped that construction of these 2 schemes will commence in 2026.

This was noted

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### **5.2 Submitted by Councillor Fionnan Blake**

*“What is the current waiting time for Social Housing in the Ratoath M.D.?”*

#### **Response:**

328 applicants expressed Ratoath as an area of choice, broken down as below:

- 162 – 1 bed applicants (longest on list dated 2011)
- 101 – 2 bed applicants (longest on list dated 2015)
- 43 – 3 bed applicants (longest on list dated 2017)
- 22 – 4 bed applicants (longest on list dated 2017)

This was noted. It was further noted that the review of the County Development Plan, will afford the Members to opportunity to ensure there is sufficient zoned land for continuous housing delivery.

### **6.0 Notice of Motions**

There were none.

### **7.0 Correspondence**

There was none.

### **8.0 Any Other Business**

- The R147 drainage has become a serious issue and for pedestrians walking alongside the road they are being drenched. Traffic lights have been needed here for the past 14 years.
- Complaints and calls are constant regarding the kerbs that are causing an issue on the Ratoath Road. Lorries are driving over them damaging the grass area and it is potentially dangerous.
- Can the Director of Transport attend the next MD meeting to discuss further, Batterstown, Mullagh Cross and Tara Mews issues.
- The turn on the Grange to Ratoath Road is being used a diversion to avoid the tolls. This will need to be addressed.
- As previously mentioned, communication with members of the public in relation to the Dunboyne Cycle scheme is critical in providing information and getting buy-in for the scheme and a softer approach by the consultants maybe beneficial.
- Footpaths are desperately needed on the M3 Parkway to MSD. Has a plan been submitted?
- Bus stop signs on the Fairyhouse road are missing. Can they be replaced?
- Can the Meath County Council sign to front of the building be made more visible?
- Can members consider the Clowanstown Lane with regard to the LIS scheme. Currently there is a €12,000 deficit.

The meeting concluded at 12.30

Signed:

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Cathaoirleach